TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office

March 22, 1999 LB 142, 149, 881

a powerful tool to adjust needs and, therefore, keep in control what we're doing regarding state aid. With that, thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Raikes. Senator Kristensen. The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I see five hands. The question before us is, should debate cease? Those in favor vote aye, those opposed nay. Please record.

CLERK: 34 ayes, 3 mays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Debate is ended. Senator Bohlke, you're recognized to close.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes, Mr. President, members, following what I said before, I will be brief. However, Senator Tyson, I should out to you that President Truman said, oh, these two-handed politicians drive me crazy; on the one hand they say this and on the other hand they say that; please just give me a one-armed politician. But listening very closely to the statements made by people and realizing that I can't explain to you every issue that was raised from 1114, 299, (LB) 142, and the whole issue of valuation. However, I do need to point out to you, and especially you, Senator Baker, that with this bill if the valuations go up they'll get less. Without this bill, if the valuations go up they'll get less. That state aid works and so it's important for you to realize that. That argument has nothing to do with this bill. The other thing certainly goes to what Senator Raikes was getting at, that this does not necessarily mean that aid will always go up. If you remember, December 1 the amount certified was almost \$3 million more than the amount certified under LB 149. And so it does not mean that aid will always go up. The issue of this...that this may set a precedent, I hope it does. I hope it continues to set the precedent that we in the Legislature have always done, that s our support of K-12 education. I think what this does is what I've said in the beginning. It keeps us focused on what's important for funding our K-12 schools and it also adds the predictability and stability that in the very beginning of this debate everyone says was one of the primary reasons for 149. There was very little disagreement. And so if we do not override this veto then we are back to December 1, we are using